

NEWS FROM THE 1st DISTRICT

Dear Friends.

It's been three weeks since I had the honor of being sworn in to represent the good people of New Hampshire's First District for a fourth term, and so much has happened during that time. Here's my first report back to you about my work as your representative in the 115th Congress.

Presidential Transition

Last week, Donald Trump was sworn in as the 45th President of the United States of America, and I committed to work with him if and when his policy proposals help our state and country. However, since his election he has taken a number of deeply concerning actions. These include hiring his relative (nepotism); freezing all hiring at the VA, as well as other agencies that provide critical services to First District constituents; silencing scientists working on climate change; and insulting our brave intelligence officers by denying the truth about Russian interference in the election. President Trump insists that millions voted illegally, refuses to release his tax returns, this week publicly condoned torture, and plans to build a wall and make us taxpayers pay for it. The list goes on.

While I stand ready to work with anyone, Republican or Democrat, in support of New Hampshire's working families, veterans, and seniors, I also believe we need to acknowledge that what is happening in Washington, D.C. does not look or sound good.

Committee Assignments

I am honored to have been reappointed to the House Armed Services Committee and the House Education and Workforce Committee.





On the Armed Services Committee, I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to keep our country safe and support the mission of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and Pease Air National Guard Base. This week, I sent a letter to Secretary Mattis urging him not to freeze Shipyard hiring. I will fight to make sure we keep our promises to our service members, military families, and veterans—as a former military spouse, I know it's the least we can do to honor those who sacrifice so much for us.

As a member of the Education and Workforce Committee, I will work to strengthen the economy so gains are shared by all, not just those at the top—everyone should have a shot at the American Dream. That means supporting New Hampshire workers, defending access to healthcare, and promoting access to education for all.

Working for Veterans

During the first week of the new Congress, I reintroduced the Veterans Health Equity Act, a bill to address the fact that New Hampshire is currently the only state in the nation that does not have a full-service veterans' hospital or equivalent access. While the bipartisan VA Choice Act, which I helped pass in 2014, expanded access to private care to reduce wait times, its implementation has been flawed, and far too many veterans are still waiting for care.

This week, I stood up against the VA hiring freeze. Leaving thousands of jobs unfilled could reverse progress on wait times, backlogs, and quality care. I cosponsored a bill to lift the freeze, because our vets deserve better.

Serving Constituents

Constituent service has always been a top priority for me and my staff. Our district office is open in Dover and my staff will be scheduling events and office hours throughout the District to advocate for and help constituents with everything from VA benefit disputes to arranging school trips to the Capitol.

I'm excited to be partnering with the many good people and organizations who work on critical issues facing New Hampshire communities.

Looking Forward

As events unfold, I will make it a top priority to communicate with all of my constituents, and I want to listen to your thoughts, concerns, and hopes for our nation.

Best Wishes,

Carol Shea-Power

Carol

ICYMI

N.H. Delegation to Trump: Spare VA Hospitals from Hiring Freeze NHPR//1.26.17

All members of New Hampshire's congressional delegation have signed on to a letter to President Trump demanding that he exempt the Department of Veterans Affairs from his executive order freezing federal hiring. Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan and Representatives Carol Shea-Porter and Annie Kuster, all Democrats, say a hiring freeze at the VA will delay veterans' access to health care and resolution of their disability claims.

VIDEO: NH all-female, all Democratic delegation ready to get to work in Washington WMUR//1.3.17



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